

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00323 101552Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01
OES-02 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-04
IO-06 /046 W
-----106312 101607Z /53

R 101458Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4619
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 0323

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OTCY, PBOR, PGOV, SENV, JO,IS
SUBJECT: ISRAELI/JORDANIAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

REF: 77 STATE 303139

1. DURING JANUARY 10 CALL ON AMBASSADOR, C. HOOPER OF NOAA (REFTEL) MENTIONED THAT HIS CONTACTS IN THE ISRAELI SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN INFORMAL COOPERATION IN VARIETY OF AREAS WITH THEIR JORDANIAN COUNTERPARTS. ONE SPECIFIC AREA OF ISRAELI INTEREST APPEARS TO PROVIDE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTINUING US GOOD OFFICES ROLE ON BEHALF OF MUTUAL INTERESTS OF JORDAN AND ISRAEL. ISRAELIS HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN PROVIDING EARLY WARNING TO JORDANIANS REGARDING OIL SPILLS AT EILAT: PREVAILING WINDS AND SEA CURRENTS OFTEN RESULT IN ACCUMULATION OF THESE SPILLS ON COAST OF JORDAN.

2. ALTHOUGH JORDANIANS REMAIN SUSPICIOUS OF POSSIBLE ISRAELI POLITICAL MOTIVES IN SUGGESTING ISRAELI/
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JORDANIAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, WE BELIEVE THIS PROBLEM COULD BE OVER COME REGARDING SPECIFIC ISSUE OF OIL SPILLS VIA INFORMAL USG GOOD OFFICES ROLE. WE PROPOSE THAT EARLY WARNING OF EILAT OIL SPILLS BE GIVEN BY ISRAELIS TO EMBASSY TEL AVIV FOR TRANSMITTAL TO EMBASSY AMMAN FOR US TO RELAY TO GOJ. THIS DEVICE WOULD SATISFY JORDANIAN QUALMS.

SCHEME WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO GRADUAL BUILDING OF
CONFIDENCE BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND GOJ AND PROVIDE
INFORMATION WHICH WE ARE CERTAIN WOULD BE GRATEFULLY
RECEIVED BY JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES. ADDITIONAL
BENEFIT WOULD BE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR GOJ TO ACQUIRE
CAPACITY TO CONTROL OIL SPILLS IN GULF OF AQABA.

3. HOOPER WILL CALL ON EMBASSY TEL AVIV DURING
HIS JANUARY VISIT TO TEL AVIV TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL
FURTHER.

4. GRATEFUL DEPARTMENT AND TEL AVIV REACTION.
PICKERING

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NNN

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